

1904.

THE TWENTIETH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF CROMER,

TOGETHER WITH

THE REPORTS

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR & SURVEYOR

AND OF

THE FIRE BRIGADE.

CROMER :

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1905.



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Cromer Urban District Council.

37, ST. GILES' STREET,
NORWICH,

February, 1905.

S. H. LONG, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENTLEMEN,

The Annual Report of your Medical Officer of Health for the year 1903 was, as you will remember, issued in the joint names of my predecessor, Dr. Barton, and myself; and although I am pleased to say Dr. Barton still remains as my Deputy, yet for this Report, dealing with the year 1904, I alone must be held responsible.

The year has been an eventful one for two reasons. In the first place the death-rate was the lowest that has ever been recorded since the town has been a self-governing district; and in the second place the resources of our Isolation Hospital have been practically tested in a manner that it had not been submitted to previously.

The gross death-rate for the year was 9·0 per 1,000 of population; but by deducting 6 deaths that occurred amongst visitors, and therefore not to be included amongst the residents proper, the true death-rate for the town was only 7·5 per 1,000. This is a matter for congratulation, I think, and will, I am quite sure, bear comparison with any other seaside health resort in this country.

There were 8 deaths in children under 1 year of age, which is equivalent to an infant mortality of 95·2 per 1,000 births registered, as compared with 162·1 in the previous year. The infant mortality for England and Wales during 1904 was 146 per 1,000 births. Three of these deaths in infants were ascribed to whooping cough, of which disease 5 children in all died. There was 1 death from scarlet fever, a child, but no deaths from any of the other zymotic diseases. There were 3 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, and 1 from cancer.

BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered was 84, which is equivalent to a birth-rate of 21·0. This, though an improvement on the birth-rate of last year, 18·6, is considerably below the average for the past 10 years, which is 24·9, and still more below the birth-rate for England and Wales, which in 1904 was 27·9.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES,
1904.

	Annual Rates per 1,000 Living.		Infant Mortality. Annual Death-rate of Infants under 1 Year per 1,000 Births.
	Births.	Deaths from all Causes.	
Cromer 	21·0	7·5	95
England and Wales ...	27·9	16·2	146
Rural England and Wales	26·8	15·3	125
76 Great Towns ...	29·1	17·2	160
142 Smaller Towns ...	27·5	15·6	154

NOTIFICATION OF ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Scarlet fever 	23
Diphtheria 	1
Erysipelas 	2
Typhoid fever 	1
	27

It was towards the latter end of September that the first case of scarlet fever occurred. The source of infection in this case could not be definitely traced and I can only think it was left behind by some visitor. The case was removed to the Isolation Hospital and the school closed; but in spite of these precautions fresh cases soon appeared and continued to crop up until the end of the first week in December. Out of the total of 23 cases 13 were treated in the hospital, and the other 10 were allowed to remain in their homes, after I had satisfied myself that in each instance effective isolation could be carried out.

Although the resources of the hospital were at times put to a severe trial, yet I am glad to be able to report that all the patients treated there were well nursed, and the experience we have gained from this epidemic has enabled us to more efficiently equip the hospital, and to effect certain structural alterations which could not otherwise have been foreseen.

Out of the 23 cases 1 death occurred, in a child which was not removed to the hospital for treatment.

TYPHOID FEVER.

This case occurred in January at Croft's Stables and was contracted in London. I found here that it was customary to deposit the manure from the stables on to the top of the privy bin in the stable yard. The bin has since been demolished and the privy converted into the water-closet system, and connected up with the sewer.

DIPHTHERIA.

This case occurred in a cottage in West Street. The house is a very small one, and not altogether a desirable dwelling, and I hope before very long it will be pulled down. I am glad to say that the medical man in attendance upon the case, not only gave antitoxin to the patient, but likewise administered a preventive dose to the other inmates, with the result that the disease did not spread.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1904.

Area	...	...	...	1,007 acres.
Population	...	...	...	3,986
Inhabited houses	...	...	...	906
Rateable value	...	...	...	£42,206

BIRTH-RATE.

Males.	Females.	Total.
38	46	84

(Four births were illegitimate.)

Birth-rate, 21·0 per 1,000 population.

The average for the last 10 years is 24·9.

DEATH-RATE.

Males.	Females.	Total.
23	13	36

Death-rate, 9·0 per 1,000 of population. One-sixth of the deaths, however, occurred amongst visitors ; and by subtracting these the nett death-rate is 7·5 per 1,000, as compared with 11·3, the average for the past 10 years.

THE CAUSES OF DEATH.

Heart disease	...	...	...	7
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	1
Whooping cough	...	...	...	5
Pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	...	3
Bronchitis and pneumonia	...	...	...	5
Injuries	...	...	...	2
Cancer	...	...	...	1
Bright's disease	...	...	...	1
Senile decay	...	...	...	2
Other diseases	...	...	...	9
				<hr/> 36

DEATHS AT DIFFERENT AGES.

Under 1 year	...	...	...	8
Over 1 and under 5 years			...	6
„ 5	„ 15	„	...	0
„ 15	„ 25	„	...	1
„ 25	„ 65	„	...	15
„ 65 and upwards	...	...	...	6
				<hr/> 36

INFANT MORTALITY.

Eight deaths occurred in infants under 1 year.

= 2·0 per 1,000 of population.

= 95·2 per 1,000 births registered.

PHTHISIS.

There were 3 deaths from Pulmonary tuberculosis.

= 0·7 per 1,000 population.

= 83·3 per 1,000 deaths.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

There were 6 deaths from Zymotic diseases.

Scarlet fever	...	...	...	1
Whooping cough	...	...	...	5
				<hr/>
				6

= 1·5 per 1,000 population.

= 166·6 per 1,000 deaths.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS, 1901.

During the year 28 inspections have been made of the various buildings in the area that come within this Act, and in 14 instances written notices have been served to effect alterations according to the requirements of the Act. In one instance, in the case of a laundry, I referred a matter of ventilation to H.M. Inspector, who promised to take action in the matter.

The number of buildings that come within this Act are the same as last year, viz., 50, of which 42 are workshops, 6 are factories, and 2 are work places.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The notes and table supplied by Mr. W. H. Archer, F.R. Met. Soc., the Observer of the Council's Climatological Station, are appended.

In closing this report I cannot omit to mention the very great assistance and invariable courtesy I have received during the year from the medical men practising in the town; and I would again like to record my appreciation of the manner in which the Assistant Inspector, Mr. Croome, has performed his duties.

Signed,

SYDNEY H. LONG, M.D.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institu- tions in the District.	Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institu- tions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institu- tions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1894	2,390	68	28.4	7	102.9	37	15.4	—	4	—	33	13.8
1895	2,690	75	32.6	7	9.3	34	14.7	—	3	—	31	13.4
1896	3,028	90	30.0	3	38	38	12.5	—	1	—	37	12.2
1897	3,348	80	23.9	5	62	47	14.0	—	5	—	42	11.6
1898	3,473	79	22.7	9	113.9	47	13.5	—	6	—	41	11.8
1899	3,577	76	21.2	15	197.3	48	13.4	—	5	—	43	12.0
1900	4,010	92	26.0	2	21.7.	41	10.2	—	7	—	34	8.5
1901	3,753	86	22.9	11	127.9	44	11.7	—	1	—	43	11.4
1902	3,942	92	23.5	6	65.2	37	9.4	—	4	—	33	8.4
1903	3,976	74	18.6	12	162.1	45	11.3	—	5	—	40	10.0
Averages for years 1894-1903.	3,418	81	24.9	7	90.0	41.8	12.6	—	4	—	37	11.3
1904.	3,986	84	21.0	8	95.2	36	9.0	—	6	—	30	7.5

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13, calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Total Population at all ages, 3,753.
Number of Inhabited Houses, 839.
Average Number of Persons per House, 4.4.
Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 1,007.

At Census of 1901.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Notifiable Disease.	At all Ages.	Age 1 to 5.	Age 5 to 15.	Age 15 to 25.	Age 25 to 65.	65 and upwards.
Diphtheria ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	2	1	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever ...	23	8	14	—	1	—
Enteric Fever ...	1	—	—	1	—	—
Totals ...	27	9	15	1	1	1

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH.

Causes of Death.	All Ages.	Age under 1 year.	Age 1 and under 5	Age 5 and under 15.	Age 15 and under 25.	Age 25 and under 65.	Age 65 and upwards.
Scarlet fever ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough ...	5	3	2	—	—	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	3	—	1	—	—	2	—
Other tubercular diseases..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Cancer, malignant disease	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Bronchitis ...	3	1	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
Heart diseases ...	7	—	—	—	—	5	2
Accidents ...	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Gangrene ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Myelitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bright's disease ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Senile decay ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
All other causes ...	6	3	1	—	—	2	—
All causes ...	36	8	6	—	1	15	6

Cromer Weather Report.

The Weather observations for the year 1904 constitute the second complete yearly record, so that more interesting comparisons can now be made.

ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE.

The mean for the year was higher than that for 1903, and was only one-thousandth of an inch below the standard pressure of 30 inches. The highest and lowest monthly means were recorded respectively in June and February, and were nearly half-an-inch higher and lower than the corresponding figures for 1903 ; the range of mean pressure being over nine-tenths of an inch. The highest and lowest readings of the year were—30·696 on January 22nd, and 28·574 on February 9th, that is, a range of over two inches. The corresponding figures for 1903 were—30·639 on January 14th, and 28·704 on March 2nd.

SHADE TEMPERATURE.

The highest monthly mean of the dry bulb readings was 61·6 degrees in July, and the lowest was 37·2 in February. The same months gave the extreme maximum and minimum means of 70·9 and 33·9 respectively. The two years' observations show that July is our warmest month, and the following are the figures for July of both years :—

		Mean Dry Bulb.		Mean Maximum.		Mean Minimum.
July, 1904	...	61·6	...	70·9	...	55·1
July, 1903	...	58·5	...	66·4	...	52·8

The maximum reading was 87·6 on August 4th, and compares favourably with 83·7 on June 28th, 1903.

SOLAR TEMPERATURE.

July also gave the mean maximum in the sun of $130\cdot3$ degrees, exceeding August of last year by just 9 degrees. The highest reading was $144\cdot6$ on July 15th.

SUNSHINE.

The year's record was 116 hours more than that of 1903. July is again conspicuous, and gave 40 hours more than August. The July record was 86 hours and 71 hours more than the best month's record of 1903 and 1902 respectively.

RAINFALL.

June was the driest month of the year, and had the lowest number of rainy days. The year's total was 19·49 inches, being $4\cdot71$ less than 1903. The average recorded rainfall for 1904 for the Eastern District of England was 19·72.

W. H. ARCHER, F.R. MET. SOC.,
Observer.

Cromer Weather Report for 1904.

1904.	Barometer. Mean.	Dry Bulb. Mean.	Wet Bulb. Mean.	RAINFALL.				Mean Shade. Maximum.	Mean Shade. Minimum.	Sunshine. Hours.	Mean Solar. Maximum.	Mean Grass. Minimum.
				Maximum Day's Rain.	Date of Maximum.	Total Rain.	Rainy Days.					
January ...	Inches. 29·925	Deg. 37·6	Deg. 36·8	Inches. 0·30	16	Inches. 1·76	No. 26	Deg. 42·4	Deg. 34·5	Deg. 39·9	Deg. 62·3	Deg. 27·9
February ...	29·552	37·2	36·0	0·35	9	2·27	23	41·9	33·9	53·0	74·2	28·0
March ...	29·984	38·7	38·0	0·46	28	1·50	24	45·6	35·0	118·1	87·6	28·8
April ...	29·996	47·0	44·5	0·34	22	0·78	15	54·9	41·4	185·5	109·5	33·1
May ...	29·932	50·6	48·4	0·40	6	1·38	15	58·6	44·6	162·5	112·2	37·2
June ...	30·467	54·0	51·3	0·23	14	0·55	10	61·8	48·8	188·9	120·5	42·7
July ...	30·032	61·6	58·6	1·06	25	2·35	11	70·9	55·1	277·6	130·3	48·2
August ...	30·092	60·5	56·4	1·42	31	2·39	11	68·6	53·8	237·4	121·8	45·6
September ...	30·051	55·4	53·1	0·37	24	1·82	19	62·3	50·9	192·0	113·1	—
October ...	30·093	50·5	48·8	0·30	21	1·26	17	56·8	46·5	106·7	96·7	—
November ...	29·998	42·8	41·2	0·26	23	1·66	22	48·7	38·8	63·8	76·4	—
December ...	29·876	40·6	39·8	0·32	15	1·77	27	45·5	35·7	62·9	60·4	—
Totals ...	—	—	—	—	—	19·49	220	—	—	1688·3	—	—
Means ...	29·999	48·0	46·0	—	—	1·62	19·2	54·8	43·2	140·6	97·0	—
Year 1903—Totals ...	—	—	—	—	—	24·20	238	—	—	1471·9	—	—
Means ...	29·861	47·9	—	—	—	2·01	19·8	54·6	43·4	122·6	98·2	—

Report of the Surveyor for the Year 1904.

To the Chairman and Members of the Highways Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

ROAD MAINTENANCE.

MAIN ROADS.

HOLT ROAD has been repaired from the bottom of the hill to the boundary and skirted its entire length; the portion from West Street to Sandy Lane has been coated with granite, and the sides made good with flints and marl.

The path from the Beach Station to Sandy Lane has been improved, a York stone edging laid, and the surface regulated to receive a coating of red gravel.

The Church Street portion of this road has been relaid in tarred slag from High Street to Garden Street, and the cross section from High Street to the Post Office improved.

NORWICH ROAD has been repaired where necessary and skirted throughout, and a granite sett channel laid on the South side, from the foot of the hill, for a distance of 60 yards.

OVERSTRAND ROAD has been coated with flints and marl from the Roman Catholic Chapel to the boundary, and in granite from Church Street to "Egmere."

The cinder path has been maintained, and the road skirted where required.

RUNTON ROAD has been coated in granite from Macdonald Road to the top of the hill, and skirted right through to the boundary.

During the year some 80 loads of sand have been blown from the Marrams on to this road, and has had to be collected together and carted away.

OTHER ROADS.

CABELL ROAD.—Coated in the centre with flints and marl from Runton Road to Cadogan Road, and repaired where necessary.

CADOGAN ROAD.—Coated in the centre with flints and marl from Prince of Wales' Road to Cabbell Road.

DAVY HILL ROAD.—Grass side maintained and skirted.

GARDEN STREET.—The tar-paving has been relaid the entire length of the street, and the gullies, covers, &c., altered and regulated.

HALL ROAD.—Coated in flints and marl from the top of West Street to the end of the first plantation, and repaired and skirted where required.

The excessive traffic and poor foundation has necessitated the Metton portion of this roadway being again coated with flints and marl.

HIGH STREET.—The application to the County Council to take this street over as a Main Road was refused.

THE LOKE, from Colne House to Vicarage Road, has been regulated and coated with red gravel, and the curb at the lower end continued from the finish of the old path to the Rectory gates.

MILL LANE.—Repaired where required, and the cinder path at the lower end renewed where necessary.

NORTHREPPS ROAD.—Skirted for the entire length.

ROUGHTON ROAD.—Skirted where required.

STATION ROAD.—Skirted for the entire length, the channels cleared, and the roadway made good round all covers.

The question of this road becoming a Main Road has been before the County Council, and they have stated certain terms on which they would take it over: these terms are now receiving the consideration of the Committee.

VICARAGE ROAD.—Recoated in flints and marl where necessary.

ROAD MAKING.

CENTRAL ROAD has been completed with the exception of the tar-paving to the paths opposite vacant sites.

CHESTERFIELD ROAD BACK.—Plans, specifications and estimates have been prepared for making up this road.

CLARE, CRAWFORD, and CONNAUGHT ROADS.—The paths have been tar-paved where the houses have been built.

Plans, specifications, and estimates have been prepared, under the Private Street Works Act, 1892, for the temporary making up, by providing for Surface Water Drainage and Road Foundation, of the following roads in Suffield Park:—Cliff Road, Harbord Road, and Salisbury Road.

BREAKING UP STREETS.

The number of permissions given for breaking up roads during the year has been as follows :—Gas Company, 73; Water Department, 5; Builders, in connection with new buildings, 19; Hoardings, 5; Sundries, 8. Total, 110.

In addition to these, 85 notices of intention of breaking up roads, and 6 for extension of cables, were received from the Electric Light Supply Company, making a total of 201.

Practically every road in the district was broken into during the past year, and as many of the permissions given to the Gas Company were for repairing defective mains, necessitating a road being broken up in a number of places, it is most difficult to keep a good surface to the roadways under such circumstances.

The reinstatements were in all cases done as speedily as possible.

SEWERAGE.

No additional sewers have been made during the year.

A portion of the sewer in the lower part of Mill Lane having become defective through subsidence, was relaid.

The Storm Outlets on the East Parade were always a source of nuisance owing to their being untrapped. A proper trap in concrete has now been inserted in each case.

FLUSHING SEWERS, ETC.

Most of the manholes in the town have been inspected at least once a month, the more important fortnightly; and the systematic flushing of sewers and gullies was carried out as usual.

The following table compares the amount of work done under this heading to that of 1903 :—

	1904.	1903.
Inspecting and cleaning manholes ...	2,991	3,259
Flushing sewers	67	38
„ gulleys	1,026	747
Storm outlets attended to ...	52	43

THE SEPTIC TANKS

Have again worked satisfactorily, and the new system of ventilation has been a success.

SEWER OUTFALL EXTENSION.

This work has now been completed by the Council's workmen at a cost of £300 less than the lowest tender for the work.

STREET SCAVENGING AND WATERING.

The following is the amount of water used for various purposes :—

	1904. Gallons.	1903. Gallons.
Street watering	2,286,700	1,476,510
„ washing	13,800	20,400
Flushing sewers and gulleys ...	117,000	95,850
	<hr/> 2,417,500 <hr/>	<hr/> 1,592,760 <hr/>

All the roads have been regularly swept and scavenged, the chief streets receiving constant attention during the season, and Church and West Streets were washed whenever they became muddy and greasy ; in addition, the tar-paved roads were frequently disinfected during the summer with a solution of permanganate of potash.

STEAM ROLLER.

The steam roller has been at work 101 days during the past year, 36 days of which were on private work, representing a sum of £54 paid to the Council.

STOREYARD.

The plans of the proposed buildings are under the consideration of the Committee, and the making-up of the diverted path is now in the hands of the successful contractor (Mr. H. Bullen) to the Bond Cabbell Trustees.

OVERSTRAND ROAD WIDENING.

The work of widening this road from Cromwell Road to “Egmere” is now in hand. At the end of the year the widened portion of the roadway was filled in, the foundation to the road formed, and a first coating of flints and marl put on to make it passable for traffic ; the granite curb and channel has been laid, the path formed, foundation and tar-paving completed, and the new boundary wall and fences erected.

ELECTRIC LIGHT STATION.

The boundary wall has been erected by Messrs. Girling & Smith, the successful contractors, and the roadway at the side made.

THE LIGHTHOUSE HILLS PATH.

This work has now been completed. Advantage was taken of the work in hand on the Doctor's Steps for approaching Sir Samuel Hoare, Bart., to give the necessary land to widen and improve the portion from the Doctor's Steps to Primrose Lane. Sir Samuel Hoare, Bart., having consented, the work was started at once by direct labour, and completed before the season commenced.

THE DOCTOR'S STEPS.

The work of improving the former dangerous grade of this approach to the Beach and Parade has been completed.

PROPOSED MUNICIPAL OFFICES.

A Local Government Board Inquiry was held in reference to a modified scheme, and their approval subsequently obtained. It was afterwards decided to abandon the scheme, and the site was offered for sale, but no satisfactory offer being obtained, the question is still under the consideration of the Committee.

FIRE BRIGADE STATION.

After the necessary Inquiry, the consent of the Local Government Board has been obtained for the work and for the purchase of the site. The plans are now before the Bond-Cabbell Trustees for their approval.

The building at the Town Hall recently used for a Fire Station being required by the Town Hall Company, the premises in Canada Road, lately occupied by Mr. Linford, have been hired as a temporary station.

CROMER TO MUNDESLEY RAILWAY.

A temporary bridge has been placed over the Roughton Road.

Some difficulty was experienced in connection with the road diversion on the Holt Road, but a fairly satisfactory temporary bridge has now been obtained; the building of the permanent bridge is taking, however, an undue length of time.

The question of providing a temporary bridge over the cutting through the path from Hall Road to Felbrigg was considered by the Committee, but it was decided not to press this point.

SHOP BLINDS.

In consequence of the danger and inconvenience caused by the lowness of many of these, the Committee decided to put their powers into force and require all to be at least 7 feet above the path, with the result that the majority are now satisfactory, and the remainder are being dealt with.

STREET LIGHTING.

The number of lamps lighted regularly at the end of the year was 174, compared with 181 last year. Nineteen gas lamps were replaced by 9 electric arc lamps, and 12 additional gas lamps were erected during the year.

HACKNEY CARRIAGES.

Two inspections were made at the commencement of the season.

The following figures give an account of the work under this heading :—

		1903.	1904.
Carriage licenses granted	...	63	63
Drivers' " "	...	73	66
Cautions given to drivers	...	59	57
Reported drivers	... ..	34	4
Conviction of drivers	... ..	1	2

FORESHORE INSPECTION.

The receipts for the foreshore were £71 18s., as compared with £55 7s. in 1903; this increase was due to the favourable weather, and is the largest amount collected in a year.

The patrol boatmen employed during the season at the bathing grounds have again been the means of saving a number of lives.

The duties of Inspector have, for the fourth year, been carried out by ex-Police Inspector Thomas Watson, and his work in connection with the Foreshore and Hackney Carriages has been most efficiently done.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. F. SCOTT.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1904.

To the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of Fever have been notified during the year, and had immediate attention, viz., 23 Scarlet Fever, 1 Diphtheria, and 1 Typhoid: of these 13 Scarlet Fever patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

In all instances the premises concerned were thoroughly inspected, disinfectants and "Instructions" supplied, and where the patient was kept at home, proper isolation was required to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health. The infected rooms (with bedding, &c.), when vacated, were thoroughly disinfected.

The origin of each outbreak was, as usual, investigated, and in one case where the sanitary arrangements were unsatisfactory, a notice was served on the owner, and the matter has now been remedied. In November the School Register was gone through, and the homes of all children away on account of illness were visited.

Two cases of Erysipelas were notified and had attention, and as in previous years, all rooms occupied by known consumptive patients were disinfected when vacated.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

This building has been occupied from September 20th; 13 cases of Scarlet Fever having been treated there, and all the patients have recovered.

Gifts for the use of the patients have to be acknowledged from Dr. Burton, Mrs. Savage, and Messrs. Batson, Dulley, Emms, Pratt, Randell, Ruddock, and Sergeant.

HOUSE SCAVENGING.

During the past year practically no complaints were received from the scavengers as to premises being found locked; this has facilitated the collection of the refuse.

The receptacles are still, many of them, most unsatisfactory, and although some of the worst cases have been dealt with, the matter is in abeyance at present, pending the approval of the Local Government Board to a new series of bye-laws, which deal with this question.

Nothing further has been done with regard to a more expeditious method for the disposal of the refuse.

Mr. Wright, of Felbrigg, was again the contractor for the supply of horses, and the work of collection has been carried out by the Council's workmen under the same rules as in previous years.

SANITARY CENSUS WORK.

The arrears of this work having now been cleared off, the inspection of a further portion of the district will be proceeded with.

PAVING OF YARDS.

This matter has received the consideration of the Committee during the year. A further number of yards have been remedied, and notices have been served on the owners of others, and the work will be put in hand to comply with same, as soon as the weather will permit.

FLUSHING OF SEWERS.

A record of this work will be found in the Surveyor's Report to the Highways Committee.

THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

The work done under this Act is recorded in the tabulated statement given below, a copy of which has been supplied to the Local Government Board. The number of premises on the Register is similar to last year, viz., 50, classified as follows—6 factories, 42 workshops, 2 work places.

			Inspections.	Written Notices.
Factories ...	...	...	8	7
Workshops	...	...	16	27
Work places	...	...	3	2
Home worker's premises	...	...	0	0
			—	—
			27	36

DEFECTS DISCOVERED.

			Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.
Want of cleanliness	...	...	4	4	0
„ ventilation	...	...	1	0	1
Overcrowding	...	...	0	0	0
Other nuisances	...	...	1	1	0
Sanitary accommodation insufficient			4	3	0
„ „ defective			2	2	0
Breach of special sanitary require- ments for bakehouses	...	...	4	4	0
			—	—	—
			16	14	1

In addition to the above, attention has been called to the non-exhibition of the required Abstract of the Act in 4 cases, and the notice as to air space in 21 cases.

No notices have been received from H.M. Inspector of Workshops under Section 5 of the Act; and the case of insufficient sanitary accommodation mentioned in my last year's report has now been corrected.

APPROVAL OF PLANS UNDER THE BYE-LAWS.

Thirty-two sets of plans have been submitted during the year, of which 29 were approved, compared with 41 in 1903, and 53 in 1902. These plans represent 67 buildings, against 93 in 1903, and 86 in 1902, viz. :—

			Town Ward.		Suffield Park Ward.	
			1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.
Dwelling-houses	...	...	14	30	26	30
Additions to existing buildings	...	...	14	13	1	2
„ „ public	„	...	1	2	0	1
Workshops	...	...	0	2	0	0
New sewers	...	...	0	0	0	3
„ roads	...	...	0	0	0	3
Amended drainage	...	...	2	0	1	1
Stables	...	...	1	0	1	0
Sundry buildings	...	...	6	6	0	0
			—	—	—	—
			38	53	29	40

As will be seen by the above table the amount of building in the Urban District has shown a considerable decrease during the year. The following table gives the number of dwelling-houses approved, compared with previous years :—

	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
Cottages	30	46	29	31
Medium-sized houses ...	7	5	12	20
Large houses... ..	3	9	8	26
	—	—	—	—
	40	60	49	77

The drains to all new houses have, as in previous years, passed the smoke test before being finally approved.

The continued infringement of Bye-law No. 54, which requires an open space of a prescribed width at the rear of all dwelling-houses, exclusively belonging to such dwellings, has again received the consideration of the Committee.

NEW CEMETERY.

The Lord Bishop of Norwich consecrated a portion of the new Cemetery on April 21st last ; a section was set out, and the first burial took place on September 17th.

The main drive and a portion of the paths required at present have been made up, the successful contractor being Mr. W. G. Porter, Cromer.

The laying out of the grounds has been continued during the year, over 400 trees having been planted, the greater number being presented by F. H. Barclay, Esq.

The main drive has been planted with an avenue of chestnut trees.

The upper portion of the Cemetery has been fenced off, and let with the permission of the Local Government Board.

NUISANCES.

The District has again been systematically inspected, and during such inspections, together with complaints received at the Office, 98 nuisances, &c., have been dealt with and rectified, compared with 61 in the previous year.

The notices served during the year have been in reference to the following nuisances :—

- 1 Sink not efficiently trapped.
- 3 W.C.'s without an efficient flushing apparatus.
- 2 Defective gulleys.
- 4 Yards insufficiently paved.
- 1 W.C. foul.
- 1 Gulley inside building.
- 3 Insufficient sanitary accommodation.
- 16 Buildings on air space.

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In all cases the work has been, or is being, carried out to comply with the notices.

The work of the Sanitary Inspector's Department has included the service of 58 notices and 66 letters ; and the recorded number of visits made was 387.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. F. SCOTT.

FIRE BRIGADE.

Report of Chief Officer for the Year ending 31st Dec., 1904.

To the Chairman and Members of the Fire Brigade Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

During the year 1904 no calls were received for the Brigade, either in the Urban District or surrounding Parishes.

The appliances possessed by the Brigade are practically the same as reported last year; the engine and other plant have been kept in good order.

The purchase of the site in Canada Road for the purpose of a new Fire Station has now been completed. The plans for the buildings have been amended, the proposal of providing rooms over the station being abandoned for the present, and the same are now before the Vendors for approval.

The Town Hall Company have given notice that they require the Fire Station for the purpose of extensions, and the Council have secured, as a temporary station, the premises belonging to Mr. William Linford, in close proximity to the old station.

The Council have been in communication with the Councils of the Parishes within a radius of 5 or 6 miles from Cromer, with reference to the services of the Brigade, by which, in consideration of an annual payment, the Council would undertake to send their Engine and Brigade when required for the purpose of assisting in extinguishing fires in the Parish, and have been able to make arrangements with 8 Parishes, the agreements with whom are now being prepared. The Council have given notice to those Parish Councils who have not entered into an arrangement with the Council, that the Brigade would not, after the 31st March, 1905, attend any fires in their districts.

The conduct of the Brigade has been satisfactory, and I have, as in previous years, pleasure in acknowledging the assistance at all times rendered by the Lieutenants.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES K. FROST,

Captain.

